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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Donna L. Robinson

Docket No.: S-94,752

Serial No.:

Examiner:

Filed : February 12, 2001

Art Unit:

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BIOLOGICAL
MATERIAL SEPARATION

1c821 U.S. PTO
09/782324
02/12/01

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97, AND 1.98

Sir:

The documents listed below, copies attached, may be material to the examination of the subject application and is therefore submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

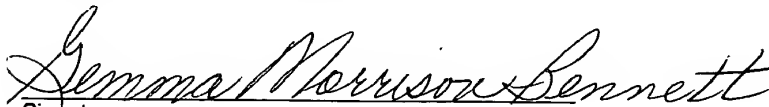
I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

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Gemma Morrison Bennett
(type or print name of person certifying)

Date February 12, 2001

1. U.S. Patent 6,129,828 (Sheldon et al., October 10, 2000) discloses electrophoresis of biological samples to utilize the differential charge-to-mass ratio of sample constituents so as to control the migration of materials within a solution.
2. U.S. Patent 5,665,582, (Kausch and Narayanswami, September 9, 1997) discloses a method for isolation and sorting of biological materials by anchoring of biological material which has been separated from cellular milieu to a support such as glass coverslips, glass or polymer beads, then labeling the biological material in the polymerized or cross-linked system with magnetic particles. The magnetic particle properties are then exploited for isolation of the biological material.
3. U.S. Patent 6,121,054 (Lebl, September 19, 2000) discloses a method for separation of solid and liquid phases for solid phase organic syntheses by expelling the liquid phase from samples that have been centrifuged.
4. U.S. Patent 5,508,164 (Kausch et al., April 16, 1996) discloses a method for isolation of biological materials using magnetic particles. No separation barrier is suggested.
5. U.S. Patent 5,225,332 (Weaver and Joseph, July 6, 1993) discloses a

method for manipulation of liquid microdroplets by formation of microdroplets such that physical forces based on particular interactions of the microdroplets with a surrounding non-aqueous fluid results can be used to alter the position of the microdroplets.

6. U.S. Patent 6,120,985 (Laugharn et al., September 19, 2000) discloses an apparatus and methods for cell lysis and purification of biological materials using pressure and temperature variations and electrophoresis for separation of nucleic acids.

7. U.S. Patent 5,654,179 (Lin, August 5, 1997) discloses a method for RNA preparation which includes alcohol precipitation, filtration, agglutination, immobilization of materials on absorptive or solid supports and/or fluid evaporation to separate the RNA samples.

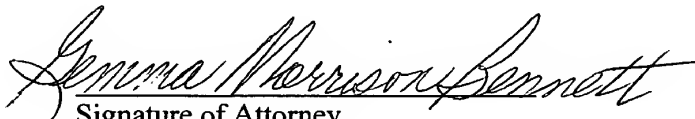
This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, that additional matter material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that any one or more of these citations constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102.

It is requested that the above citations be made of record in the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 12, 2001

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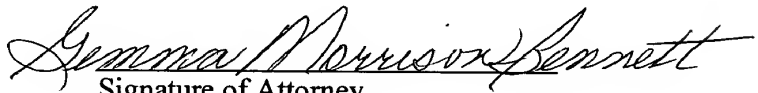
FEE AUTHORIZATION

I hereby verify that applicants qualify for small entity status as a non-profit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27.

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 37 CFR 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account # 12-2150, but is not authorized to charge any fee provided for under 37 CFR 1.18.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 12, 2001


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